

**VOLUNTOWN SELECTMEN'S MEETING**  
**May 3, 2016**

<b>Meeting</b>	A Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, May 3, 2016 at the Voluntown Town Hall. Mr. Sirpenski, First Selectman, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
<b>Selectmen Present</b>	Robert A. Sirpenski, Tracey L. Hanson, Jack S. Wesa
<b>Town Officials</b>	None
<b>Citizens Present</b>	Arthur & MaryAnne Nieminen; Wendy Gauthier; Deborah Maynard; Audience of Citizens
<b>Approval of Minutes</b>	
Motion	A motion was made (Tracey Hanson/Jack Wesa) to approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 1, 2016 as submitted. Motion Approved.
Motion	A motion was made (Jack Wesa/Robert Sirpenski) to approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 19, 2016 as submitted. Motion Approved.
Motion	A motion was made (Tracey Hanson/Jack Wesa) to move the presentation by Chelsea Groton Bank to the first item on the agenda. Motion Approved.
<b>New Business</b>	
Chelsea Groton Bank	Vice President's Keith Caplet and Alex Masse along with Senior Vice President William Lidestri provided the Board of Selectmen with an overview of the banking services offered by Chelsea Groton Savings Bank. Mr. Sirpenski asked about bonding process if needed for loans such as the Library Addition, Fire trucks and town equipment. Mr. Wesa inquired about ATM services.
<b>Citizens Comments</b>	
Arthur Nieminen	<p>Mr. Nieminen stated that he believed the Town was having financial difficulties as a budget has not been presented. Mr. Sirpenski noted that Citizen's Comments is not the forum for a discussion on the budget and that a Public Hearing will take place where questions will be addressed. Mr. Sirpenski stated that the Town's FY2016/2017 budget has not been finalized because the State will be holding a Special Session and are looking at proposals to cut Town funding anywhere from \$25,000 to \$375,000. In addition, the Board of Education is waiting for figures on a change to their health insurance coverage which could result in a saving of up to \$100,000.</p> <p>Mr. Nieminen noted that he is not happy that he was not allowed to continue his comments at the last meeting regarding how the Public Works Dept. is being run and that he felt he could save the Town money. Mr. Sirpenski stated that his comments concerned perceived problems with the Road Crew and their performance and that he asked Mr. Nieminen to set up an appointment to meet with him and the Road Foreman to discuss his concerns. Mr. Sirpenski asked that Mr. Nieminen proceed with his suggestions for saving the Town money. Mr. Nieminen stated that in his opinion Stone Hill Road should not have been milled. He feels that a catch basin on Congdon Road should have been installed by Public Works and several trees along his property should have been cut by them instead of a contractor. He felt that brush from storm damage should have been hauled to CCJ Green Recycling instead of hiring a chipper. He further stated that in his opinion the Town should not have bought a skid steer, trailer or post pounder.</p>
MaryAnne Nieminen	<p>Ms. Nieminen asked the BOS about the meeting she requested to create a maintenance and repair schedule for Wylie Schoolhouse. Mr. Sirpenski stated that since Ms. Hanson has returned from vacation, they could meet with her on Saturday at 2:30 p.m.</p> <p>Ms. Nieminen also noted that the Jewett City Savings Bank is an excellent bank. Mr. Sirpenski agreed and noted that the Town would be sending out an RFP when considering a change in banking services</p>

Wendy Gauthier Ms. Gauthier noted that she had a copy of the Town's Plan of Conservation and Development and does not feel the State Gun Range goes along with the Plan. She further stated that PILOT does not pay the correct amount.

Deborah Maynard Ms. Maynard stated that she felt someone should be in the office during the day. Mr. Sirpenski noted that he can be contacted by phone, email or appointment. She stated that she had a pamphlet regarding the gun range that she would like to make available at Town Hall and would give it to Mr. Sirpenski to review. Ms. Maynard noted that several people have asked for information at the Town Hall and were told there was State Police information on the website but the Town did not have information to pass out.

Ms. Maynard asked whether the Town would have to pay for any portion of the Town Garage. Mr. Sirpenski noted that bids are going out for a basic building with "add-ons" if the funds are available. A figure will not be known until bids are received. The Town has a \$500,000 grant for the building.

**Correspondence  
& Announcements**

Information Packets  
Gun Range A letter was left at Town Hall asking that the Town send information packets through the mail properly and not attach them to mailboxes. Mr. Sirpenski noted that these packets are not from the Town.

State Gun Range Nine letters were received asking that the proposed State Gun Range not be placed in Voluntown.

Invitation  
Hike/Gun Range Ms. Gauthier forwarded an invitation to the BOS for a hike in Pachaug State Forest where they could discuss the proposed Gun Range.

Mystic Country Mystic Country along with the Eastern Regional Tourism District and DECD launched a new website (MysticCountry.com)

DWT-CTS Ian Gill of DWT-CTS a scrap metal company forwarded an inquiry regarding the Transfer Station's recyclables.

Resignation  
Dep. Registrar Tracey Hanson submitted a letter of resignation as the Democratic Deputy Registrar effective April 12, 2016.

Supt. Burrows  
45% Rule Supt. Burrows forwarded information on the "45% PLUS Negotiated Health Insurance" rule which affects part-time retired personnel.

Library Addition Ms. Rubin forward information from Tom Newman, CT State Library Construction Grants, regarding the square foot cost for the project.

OPM The Office of Policy & Management notified the Town that the 2014 Equalized Net Grand List had been computed.

Last Green Valley The BOS received an invitation to the Annual Meeting of the Last Green Valley, Inc.

LOCIP Update Ms. Kathleen Taylor, Program Coordinator forwarded a letter introducing herself to the BOS.

**Adjournment**  
Motion A motion was made (Tracey Hanson/Jack Wesa) to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m. Motion Approved.

Respectfully submitted by:

Approved for distribution by:

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Roxanne Gray, Admin. Asst. to the BOS

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Robert Sirpenski, First Selectman